

Serial No.: 08/648,092

PATENT

application. In particular, the phrase "after cataract" is described in the background at page 1, lines 19-24. Moreover, it is respectfully submitted that the phrase "after-cataract" is clearly one that would have been understood by the skilled artisan before the priority date of the present application as supported by the publications which have been submitted by the Applicant in connection with the concurrently filed Information Disclosure Statement. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the skilled artisan would be able to ascertain the disorder "after-cataract" without undue experimentation. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 14-28 satisfy the requirements of Section 112.

With respect to the Section 103(a) rejection of Claims 14-28 and 34-38 in view of the WO 94/01124, Applicants respectfully submit that WO 94/01124 actually teaches away from the subject matter recited in the pending claims of the present application. That is, WO 94/01124 discloses a method which involves application of an effective amount of TGF β for the purpose of preventing cataracts, whereas the method recited in the subject claims involves inhibiting the effects of TGF β . Therefore, it is submitted that Claims 14-28 and 34-38 are not obvious in view of WO 94/01124 and that they should be allowed over the cited art.

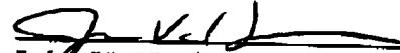
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PATENT**CONCLUSION**

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the Application is now in a condition for allowance. An early favorable action in this regard is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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